

Message Text

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13/71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /065 W
----- 100473

R 191557Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6227

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 11178

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A 2, S E N T E N C E T W O

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID EFIN EG

SUBJ: ABU ISMAIL'S COMMENTS ON AUGUST 18 GODE SESSION

REF: A) CAIRO 10967; B) CAIRO 11067

1. DURING MEETING WITH VISITING OMB TEAM AUGUST 19, MINISTER OF FINANCE ABU ISMAIL MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON AUGUST 18 SESSION WITH ARAB FINANCE MINISTERS REPRESENTING GULF ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT (GODE). ABU ISMAIL SAID THAT GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN GODE HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED AMONG THEMSELVES THAT THEY WOULD DEFINE CONDITIONS FOR USE OF GODE FUNDS IN DETAIL AND THEREAFTER SEEK FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH GOE REGARDING THESE CONDITIONS. MINISTERS HAD COME TO CAIRO WITH AGREED CONDITIONS TO PRESENT TO GOE. FIRST DAY'S SESSION, THEREFORE, HAD BEEN QUOTE VERY STIFF UNQUOTE WITH GODE MINISTERS VERY FIRM IN PURSUING FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT. ABU ISMAIL SAID HIS EFFORTS AT AUGUST 18 SESSION WERE AIMED AT GETTING GROUP TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE AND HE OUTLINED THREE AIMS MENTIONED
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REFTEL A IN ORDER TO LOOSEN UP ORGANIZATION AND MAKE IT MORE RESPONSIVE TO EGYPT'S NEEDS. EVIDENTLY GODE MINISTERS WERE NOT VERY SYMPATHETIC, BUT AGREED TO MEET AMONG THEMSELVES EVENING AUGUST 18. FURTHER MEETING WITH

ABU ISMAIL SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 19 TO DISCUSS EGYPTIAN REQUESTS. AS OMB TEAM LEFT OFFICE, FINANCE MINISTERS WERE GATHERING FOR NEXT SESSION.

2. COMMENT. ABU ISMAIL'S COMMENTS ABOUT SENSITIVE GODE MEETING WERE MADE TO UNRESTRICTED AUDIENCE AND THUS WERE NOT AS DETAILED OR FRANK AS WE WOULD HAVE LIKED. NEVERTHELESS HIS CHAGRIN AT GODE MINISTERS FORMALITY AND DETERMINED DESIRE TO COME TO DETAILED, BINDING AGREEMENT SHOWED THROUGH HIS ATTEMPT TO BE OPTIMISTIC.

3. WE ARE OF COURSE FOLLOWING GODE MEETINGS CLOSELY AND WILL REPORT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.
EILTS

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